

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

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R 280952Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4699

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION PEKING BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MT, CB, CH

SUBJ: MALTA RECOGNIZES SIHANOUK GOVERNMENT

REF: VALLETTA 1171

1. IN UNEXPECTED BUT NOT SURPRISING ANNOUNCEMENT GOM
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AUGUST 27 RELEASE STATES THAT
MALTA AND SIHANOUK GOVERNMENT HAD AGREED TO ESTABLISH
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL.

2. TEXT OF AGREED STATEMENT AS FOLLOWS: "THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE STATE OF MALTA AND THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF THE
NATIONAL UNION OF CAMBODIA, ANIMATED BY THE DESIRE TO
DEVELOP RECIPROCAL RELATIONS HAVE AGREED TO ESTABLISH
AS FROM TODAY, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AT AMBASSADORIAL
LEVEL."

3. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT MINTOFF HAD PRIVATE MEETING WITH
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SIHANOUK DURING HIS APRIL, 1972 VISIT TO PEKING. ARRANGE-

MENTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS PROBABLY WERE
COMPLETED DURING RECENT VISIT TO PEKING BY MINTOFF REPRESENTATIVE DANNY CREMONA AND MALTA AMBASSADOR TO PRC (RESIDENT CANBERRA) FORACE. OTHER THAN HIS DESIRE TO OBTAIN ECONOMIC BENEFITS (PRC AND JAPAN) MINTOFF TO DATE HAS EXPRESSED LITTLE INTEREST IN FAR EAST AND LABOR PRESS HAS PAID RELATIVELY LITTLE ATTENTION TO SOUTHEAST ASIAN PROBLEMS. HIS ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH SIHANOUK PROBABLY DESIGNED MAKE POINTS WITH PRC AND THIRD WORLD, AND VERY LIKELY AT PRC REQUEST.
GETZ

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